

In the Specification

Please delete the paragraph on page 6, lines 5-7.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 8-9, with the following paragraph:

Figure 5 (B): Growth curve for ~~Figure 5 (A)~~ time-course analysis of *Bacillus megaterium* (pGM16.2); arrowheads indicate a decrease in PhaP::GFP fluorescence.

Please delete the four paragraphs on page 6 at lines 10-18.

Please replace the paragraph on page 59, lines 1-13, with the following paragraph:

At time 0, cultures of *Bacillus megaterium* carrying, pGM16.2, pGM13, pGM13C or pHPS9, grown in LB with LM²⁵ EM¹ for 24 hours at 35°C, were inoculated (5% v/v) into 75 mL of fresh medium of the same composition, in 300 mL Naphelco flasks, and growth was continued at 27°C, 250 rpm. Optical densities of cultures were monitored and samples were removed for microscopy at time points starting at time 0, for up to 24 hours. One part of each sample was immediately observed for green fluorescence by embedding in 1% low melting point agarose for viewing in phase contrast and under fluorescence for GFP, magnification, x1000. Another part of each sample was stained for PHA and viewed under light microscopy and by fluorescence for PHA inclusion bodies, magnification, x1000. Images were recorded using identical parameters for all samples to allow comparison of fluorescence and light intensities (f-stop, 1/15; brightness, 0.6; sharpness, 1.0; contrast, 0.8; color, 0.3; see also methods and materials). Results are shown in Figure 5 (A-F).

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Please replace the paragraph on page 60, lines 12-19, with the following paragraph:

In cells of all growth phases, inclusion-bodies were rarely visible under light in stained heat fixed cells while larger inclusion-bodies were visible in phase contrast of living cells (~~Figure 5C-F~~). In older cultures (2 days and older) some cells were lysed, and showed PhaP::GFP and PhaC::GFP localized to free PHA inclusion-bodies (~~Figure 5D~~). Both free and intracellular inclusion-bodies had doughnut shaped localization of GFP at some focal planes while at other focal planes the same inclusion-bodies appeared completely covered in GFP. We interpret this data as a difference in quantity of GFP that is visible when viewed through the edge or the center of the inclusion-bodies.

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In the Figures

Please delete Figures 5A, 5C, 5D, 5E and 5F. Please renumber Figure 5B as Figure 5.

Please replace Figure 10 as filed with Figure 10 enclosed.